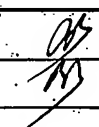


FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional)	Application Number
	0001424USU	Not Yet Assigned
	Applicant	
	Yamaguchi et al.	
Filing Date	Group Art Unit	
Not Yet Assigned	Not Yet Assigned	

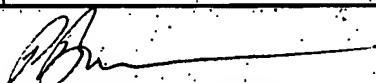
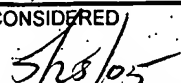
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	2000-118280	04/25/00	JAPAN				
	2003-80985	03/19/03	JAPAN				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER 	DATE CONSIDERED 
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A circular black ink stamp from the Office of Intellectual Property and Economic Development (OIPED). The text "OIPED" is at the top, "JCSB" is on the right, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom. The date "NOV 24 2003" is stamped in the center. The word "RECEIVED" is partially visible at the bottom left.



Application Number

10/620,891

Filing Date
July 16, 2003

Group Art Unit
3636

(Use several sheets if necessary)


U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	GB 1 483 567	8/24/77	GB			X	
	EP 1 077 155 A1	2/21/01	EP				X
	DE 199 24 236 C1	10/26/00	DE				X
	DE 299 15719 U1	2/15/01	DE				X
	EP 0 627 340 A1	12/7/94	EP			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	EP Search Report dated 10/22/03 from EP 03015628.5
	Patent Abstracts of Japan; Vol. 2000, No. 07, September 29, 2000 (2000-09-29), & JP 2000-118280 A (NHK Spring Co Ltd), April 25, 2000 (2000-04-25). <i>already cited</i>

EXAMINER

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